

# **Comparing Futures for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**

**Public Policy Institute of California  
and  
University of California - Davis**

This project is a follow-up to the PPIC/UC Davis report *Envisioning Futures for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*, released in February 2007. The project will:

- (i) Compare promising long-term Delta solutions in terms of ecosystem, water quality, and economic outcomes under different scenarios of climate change,
- (ii) Assess the regulatory implications of different management alternatives, and
- (iii) Provide a framework and tools for choosing among long-term strategies under uncertainty.

Analytical tools and information resources include hydrodynamic modeling of water management scenarios, hydro-economic models of water delivery quantity and quality costs and benefits, and interviews and workshops with experts on the Delta ecosystem, water quality management, and the regulatory environment.

A short time is available to produce a reviewed set of documents for this project. Therefore, we are focusing on analysis of the long-term condition of the Delta, particularly with sea level rise, and its implications for the environmental and statewide economic performance of strategic Delta alternatives, including “dual” export intakes. Quantitative analysis of these conditions will be provided in a simple framework which allows consideration of major risks.

The policy and operational adaptation implications of future Delta conditions and alternatives will also be examined and discussed. Whatever strategic alternatives are selected in the near term will require considerable long-term technical and policy attention to ensure desired overall environmental and economic performance. So we also will discuss desirable institutional and technical frameworks for continued management of a long-term alternative.

Products will include a short report for a policy audience and several technical appendices. Target publication date is June 2008. Some intermediate results may be available earlier for discussion.